

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims to read as follows:

Listing of Claims

1-15. (Canceled).

16. (New) A system for reducing the delay of retrieving data from a personal security device (PSD), the system comprising:

a client computer that functionally interfaces with the PSD and comprises a memory cache and a cache server, wherein the cache server:

retrieves information comprising encrypted data and an access privilege pertaining to the data from the PSD and stores the information in the memory cache,

verifies from the cached access privilege, upon receiving a program request for the cached data, that the requesting program has a right to access the cached data,

decrypts the encrypted cached data only if the requesting program has a verified access right to the cached data, and

provides the decrypted data to the requesting program.

17. (New) The system of claim 16, wherein the cache server flushes the memory cache upon detecting a status change.

18. (New) The system of claim 17, wherein:  
the cache server is assigned exclusive rights to the memory cache and an assigned interface port that functionally interconnects the client computer and the PSD; and  
the cache server releases the assigned exclusive rights upon detecting the status change.

19. (New) The system of claim 17, wherein the status change includes a logout of an end user, an attempted login of a second end user, a rebooting of the client computer, or encountering an error situation.

20. (New) The system of claim 16, wherein the cache server is executed by the client computer following a successful end user validation by the PSD.

21. (New) The system of claim 16, wherein the memory cache is volatile memory.

22. (New) A method for reducing the delay of retrieving data from a personal security device (PSD), the method comprising:

retrieving information comprising encrypted data and an access privilege of the data from the PSD and storing the information in a memory cache of a client computer;

verifying from the cached access privilege, upon receiving a program request for the cached data, that the requesting program has a right to access the cached data;

decrypting the encrypted cached data only if the requesting program has a verified access right to the cached data; and

providing the decrypted data to the requesting program.

23. (New) The method of claim 22, wherein a cache server flushes the memory cache upon detecting a status change.

24. (New) The method of claim 23, further comprising:

assigning a cache server with exclusive rights to the memory cache and an assigned interface port that functionally interconnects the client computer and the PSD; and

releasing the assigned exclusive rights upon detecting the status change.

25. (New) The method of claim 23, wherein the status change includes a logout of an end user, an attempted login of a second end user, a rebooting of the client computer, or encountering an error situation.

26. (New) The method of claim 22, further comprising validating an end user of the client computer with the PSD before retrieving the information from the PSD to store in the memory cache.

27. (New) The method of claim 22, wherein the memory cache is volatile memory.